



Connecticut Department of Agriculture  
 Dannel P. Malloy, Governor; Steven K. Reviczky, Commissioner  
 Robert R. Pellegrino, Bureau Director



Marketing & Technology Bureau, (860) 713-2503  
 Linda Piotrowicz, Interim Editor  
**Wednesday, December 7, 2011**

## NOTES from the DEPARTMENT . . .

### LOOK TO CT GROWN FOR THE HOLIDAY SEASON

*By Ron Olsen, Marketing Representative*

The holiday shopping season officially started this year for many right after—or even on—Thanksgiving with the Black Friday shopping spree. After filling up on Thanksgiving dinner and dessert, I am not one who especially feels like staying up an additional 12 hours in order to take advantage of “special bargains.” Instead I try to get a good night’s sleep in order to get ready for those shoppers who are coming to purchase a Connecticut Grown Christmas tree, one of the greatest values around.

The day after Thanksgiving officially marks the tree sales season on our small Christmas tree farm. Our eight acres of trees have opened for business on this day for the last 40-plus years. Ours is a family-owned and -operated business, as are most of the choose-and-cut Christmas tree farms in the state. The average tree farm in Connecticut will range in size up to 15 acres but there are also some farms as large as 75 to 200 acres.

These larger farms engage in a combination of wholesale and retail sales. Wholesale customers include nursery outlets as well as organizations such as fire companies, municipalities, and Scout troops, which use plant and tree sales as fundraisers. These wholesale customers pay a lower-than-retail price to the growers and then mark up the trees accordingly for resale.

Prices for retail trees on choose-and-cut farms show a wide range across the state. Just as in real estate, “location, location, location!” is an important factor. Along the shore in high-end communities, and especially in Fairfield County, trees command a higher retail price. Prices this year at Connecticut choose-and-cut locations range from \$20 to \$70. Stands where cut trees are sold show an even larger price range, starting at about \$15 and going up to \$150.

Tree height and variety are other factors in pricing. While many farms set one price for any size, other farms charge by the foot as well as by the variety. Often times a farm will set one price for a tree up to a certain height and then charge another price after that height threshold is reached. In addition, different prices may be charged for different types of trees. Fir trees may be set at a higher



price than spruce or pine trees because firs take longer to mature and are in higher demand.

We encourage all to buy Connecticut Grown, and during this season to visit a local tree farm. Doing so benefits your local economy and Connecticut’s family-owned farms, and it helps to keep agricultural land in the state actively working.

Connecticut has over 200 tree farms encompassing an estimated 5,000 acres in production. More than 500,000 cut trees are sold annually, worth an estimated \$15-\$20 million. For each tree that is cut and sold, two are planted to replace it, ensuring a constant stream of trees for the future. Real Christmas trees are a renewable, recyclable resource, while artificial trees contain non-biodegradable plastics and possible metal toxins such as lead.

Nationwide, approximately 25-30 million trees are sold each year on about 15,000 farms comprising 350,000 acres.

To find a Connecticut choose-and-cut Christmas tree farm please visit [www.CTGrown.gov](http://www.CTGrown.gov) and click on “Publications.” For tips on how to keep that Connecticut Grown tree fresh, visit <http://www.ctchristmastree.org/Care.html>. We wish you all a healthy and happy holiday season!

**WHOLESALE FRUITS  
NEW ENGLAND GROWN**

	Low	High
APPLE,Cort,88 ct xfcy	23.00	24.00
APPLE,Cort,80ct,xfcy	25.00	25.00
APPLE,Cort,72ct,xfcy	25.00	25.00
APPLE,Gala,12-3lb,fcy	18.00	18.00
APPLE,Gala,125ct,fcy	18.00	18.00
APPLE,Gld Del,72ct,fcy	20.00	20.00
APPLE,Hnycsp,72ct,xfcy	55.00	55.00
APPLE,Hnycsp,64ct,xfcy	55.00	55.00
APPLE,Mac,96ct,#1	17.00	17.00
APPLE,Mac,96ct,fcy	18.00	18.00
APPLE,Mac,fcy,80ct	19.00	19.00
APPLE,Red Del,bu	14.00	14.00
APPLE,Red Del,12/3	14.00	16.00
CIDER,9 1/2gal	18.00	18.00

**NEW HOLLAND, PA, HOG AUCTION  
December 5, 2011**

Hogs sold by actual weights, prices quoted by hundred weight.

49-54	220-270 lbs	66.00-69.00
	270-300	66.00-69.00
	300-400lbs	68.00-72.00
45-49	220-270lbs	64.00-65.00
Sows: US 1-3	300-500 lbs	58.00-63.00
	500-700 lbs	58.50-62.50
Boars:	300-700 lbs	30.50-32.00

**MIDDLESEX LIVESTOCK AUCTION  
Middlefield, December 5, 2011**

Live animals brought the following ave. prices per cwt.

	Low	High
Bob Calves:		
45-60 lbs.	18.00	22.00
61-75 lbs.	35.00	45.00
76-90 lbs.	55.00	60.00
91-105 lbs.	65.00	67.00
106 lbs. & up	70.00	75.00
Farm Calves	77.50	82.50
Veal Calves	50.00	117.50
Open Heifers	60.00	110.00
Feeder Steers	59.00	85.00
Starter Calves	25.00	30.00
Stock Bulls	71.00	105.00
Lambs each	60.00	200.00
Goats each	60.00	170.00
Kid Goats each	65.00	75.00
Canners	up to	63.75
Cutters	64.00	67.00
Utility Grade Cows	68.50	72.00
Rabbits each	5.00	16.00
Chickens each	4.00	12.00
Ducks each	3.00	12.00
Sheep	135.00	180.00
Feeder Pigs	30.00	75.00

**WHOLESALE VEGETABLES  
NEW ENGLAND GROWN**

	Low	High
ALFALFA SPROUTS 5lb	11.00	12.00
ALFALFA SPROUTS 12-4oz	12.00	12.00
BEAN SPROUTS,10lb	4.50	5.00
BEAN SPROUTS,12-12oz	9.00	10.00
CHIVES,1lb,film	8.00	8.00
CRANBERRIES,24-12oz,film	33.00	36.00
LETTUCE,Bstn,12/4oz	14.00	16.00
PARSNIP,25lb	24.00	25.00
POTATOES,Rnd,wh,chef,50lb	13.00	14.00
POTATOES,Yel,chef,50lb	19.00	20.00
POTATOES,10lb, szA	2.25	2.50
RUTABAGAS,Unwx,50lb	30.00	30.00
SQUASH,Acorn,1-1/9bu	14.00	15.00
SQUASH,Bttrnt,1-1/9bu,sm/md	14.00	16.00
SQUASH,Bttrcp 1-1/9bu	14.00	15.00
TOMATOES,Cherry	14.00	15.00
TOMATOES,Grnhs,on vine,11lb	15.00	15.00

**SHIPPED IN**

	Low	High
BEETS,12s,NJ	12.00	13.00
BOK CHOY,50lb,CAN	18.00	18.00
CAULIFLOWER,12,CA	18.00	18.00
CELERY, 2-1/2dz, CA	16.00	17.00
GRAPES,Wh,16Lb,CA	34.00	34.00
LETTUCE,Bstn,24,CA	16.00	18.00
LETTUCE,Rmn,24,CA	18.00	18.00
ONION,Yel,25lb,NY	6.00	7.00

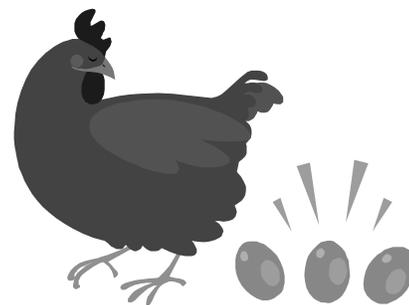
(Boston Terminal and wholesale grower prices)

**NEW HOLLAND LIVESTOCK AUCTION**

December 1, 2011

	Bulk/	High/	Low Dressing
SLAUGHTER COWS:			
Breakers	75-80%lean		
	66.00-69.00---	N/A----	63.00---65.00
Boners	80-85% lean		
	62.00-65.00---	66.50-67.00----	58.00-60.00
Lean	88-90% lean		
	56.00-60.00----	62.50-63.50----	52.00-55.00
SLAUGHTER BULLS: Yield Grade 1			
	920-1625 lbs	-73.00-76.50	
CALVES: All prices per cwt.			
Graded Bull Calves: Number 1			
	94-128lbs	- 131.00-143.00	

Holstein Heifers: Number 1		
	95-110 lbs	150.00—180.00
SLAUGHTER LAMBS: Non-Traditional Markets:		
Wooled & Shorn Choice and Prime 2-3		
	40-60 lbs	250.00-275.00
	60-80 lbs	208.00-235.00
	80-90 lbs	187.00-203.00
	90-110 lbs	168.00-183.00
	110-130 lbs	162.00-178.00
	130-150 lbs	N/A



**WEEKLY NEW ENGLAND  
SHELL EGGS**

Prices paid per dozen. Grade A brown egg in carton delivered store door. (Range)

XTRA LARGE	190-200
LARGE	187-197
MEDIUM	123-133

**NORTHEAST EGG PRICES USDA**

December 5, 2011

Prices to retailers, sales to volume buyers, USDA Grade A and Grade A, white eggs in cartons, warehouse, centers per dozen. (Range)

EXTRA LARGE	122-125
LARGE	121-125
MEDIUM	100-102

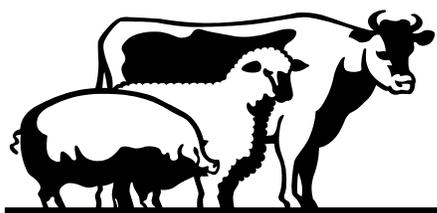
**VIRGINIA WEEKLY HAY REPORT**

December 1, 2011

Hay market for Harrisonburg, VA. All hay prices paid by dealers at the farm and per ton.

Mixed Grass	sm. square, 35-45lbs
Good	2.20 per bale
Orchard Grass	lg. round, >1,000lbs
Good	50.00 per bale
Corn Fodder	lg. round
	9.00 per bale

Wooled & Shorn Choice 2-3	
40-60 lbs	215.00-255.00
60-80 lbs	168.00-200.00
80-90 lbs	N/A
90-110lbs	160.00-175.00
110-130lbs	151.00-164.00
SLAUGHTER EWES: Good 2-3: Med. Flesh	
120-160 lbs	80.00 -95.00
160-200 lbs	74.00-89.00
200-300lbs	56.00-68.00
Utility 1-2: Thin Flesh	
120-160 lbs	60.00-75.00
160-200 lbs	58.00-73.00
SLAUGHTER GOATS: All goats are Selection 1, sold by the head, on est. weights.	
Kids: 30-40 lbs	84.00-110.00
40-60lbs	90.00-109.00
60-80lbs	120.00-153.00
80-90lbs	141.00-157.00
90-100lbs	155.00-170.00
100-110lbs	N/A
Nannies/Does: 80-130 lbs	112.00-122.00
130-180 lbs	120.00-134.00
Bucks/Billies: 100-150lbs	171.00-186.00
150-200 lbs	209.00-224.00



## ADVERTISEMENTS

**The Connecticut Week Agricultural Report offers affordable classified advertisements for your farm-related needs. See Page 4 for details and rates, or contact Jane Slupecki at 860-713-2588 or [Jane.Slupecki@ct.gov](mailto:Jane.Slupecki@ct.gov) for more information.**

### FOR SALE

1-R. CT Christmas Tree Growers, CT Sheep Breeders and CT Beekeepers Associations Special Insurance Packages available through Blumenthal/Donahue Insurance Agency--Toll Free 1-800-554-8049, [ddonahue01@comcast.net](mailto:ddonahue01@comcast.net) or [www.hobbyfarmusa.com](http://www.hobbyfarmusa.com). Farm Commercial Auto Coverage now available.

2-R. Farm Insurance for all types of farming at very competitive rates. 1-800-554-8049, [ddonahue01@comcast.net](mailto:ddonahue01@comcast.net) or [www.hobbyfarmusa.com](http://www.hobbyfarmusa.com), Blumenthal/Donahue Insurance Agency. Farm Commercial Auto Coverage now available.

4-R. Gallagher electric fencing for farms, horses, deer control, gardens, & beehives. Sonpal's Power Fence 860-491-2290.

6-R. Packaging for egg sales. New egg cartons, flats, egg cases, 30 doz and 15 doz. Polinsky Farm 860-376-2227.

9-R. Rough sawn lumber, fence boards, trailer planks, tomato stakes, custom and portable sawing 203-788-2430.

211-R Good horse hay. Round bales, picked up or delivered. \$45 each. 203-530-4953.

212-R. Nationwide Agribusiness Insurance Program, endorsed by the CT Farm Bureau, save up to 23% on your farm insurance and get better protection. References available from satisfied farmers. Call Marci today at 203-444-6553.

214-R. Hay, 4x5 round bales \$55.00. Farmall H tractor, factory wide front end, new rear tires. New paint, runs good. \$2,500.00. CAT 922 loader, diesel, good tires, runs good. \$8,500.00. 860-537-1974.

216-R. Oak tomato or snow stakes, new and used. Heavy duty 1.25' x 4'. New .75 cents . Used (one season) .55 cents. Stacked on pallets, stored under cover. 860-716-3240.

218-R. 1978 Ford backhoe payloader, diesel, Model 4500. Good condition. 203-453-0207.

220-R. Beef heifers and cows bred and open. Call Diane 860-620-0194 days/ 860-612-6363 evenings.

221-R. 1981 250 P.L. 4 cylinder diesel International, 67 hp, hydraulic drive with foot pedals, category 2, 3ph setup, PTO mechanical and hydraulic, chains. Has cab. Have manuals. Asking \$6,800.00. 860-428-4859. Ask for Lenny.

222-R. 3 Leer aluminum truck caps, 2007, white with ladder racks, side doors, rubber mats, clamps. One cap- 99-1/2" L x 70" W x 22" H. \$550.00. Two caps 6'9" L x 70" W x 22" H. \$450.00 each. One Century D.C truck cap, fiberglass 62" x 87". \$300.00. 3-wheel Easy Ride electric golf cart, roof, battery charger. \$450.00. 4-wheel golf cart, electric, with battery charger. As is. \$250.00. AGR-FAB 17 cu. ft. trailer 36" W x 5' L x 14" D. \$280.00. Wisconsin air cool engine, 2 cylinder, with gas tank and pulley in handle. \$200.00. 48" Moose snowblade. \$150.00. 5' scraper blade for 3PH. \$250.00. 860-228-3607/860-573-0851.

223. Emus, gentle proven breeding pair. \$1,000.00. 860-342-5200 or [hedy@penfieldfarm.com](http://hedy@penfieldfarm.com)

224-R. PTO generator-7800 watt- new in crate, never used-Asking \$900.00. Call 203-393-1837.

225-R. Mail order business of "Alpine window box ivy geraniums of Europe." Hundreds of (UPS) customers in 48 states for 20 years. 860-342-2374, 888-GERANIUM (437-2648). [www.wheelerfarmgardens.com](http://www.wheelerfarmgardens.com)

### MISCELLANEOUS

7-R. Farm/Land Specializing in land, farms, and all types of Real Estate. Established Broker with a lifetime of agricultural experience and 40 years of finance. Representing both Buyers and Sellers. Call Clint Charter of Wallace-Tustin Realty (860) 644-5667.

219-R. Lily's LLC Appraisal Services specializes in Estates, Commercial & Industrial, Residential, Agricultural, Conservation Easements and Reevaluation Appraisals. Call Lori Longhi at 860-463-9997.

### INTERESTED IN EXPORTING CT GROWN AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES?

Did you ever wonder what specific phytosanitary import requirements were needed to export your plant or plant products to another country? USDA's Plant Protection and Quarantine (PPQ) is here to help!

PPQ maintains the U.S. export program of United States and foreign-origin agricultural commodities. The export program does not require certification of any exports, but does provide certification of commodities as a service to U.S. exporters.

For more information please contact: Eric Chamberlain, 203-741-5643 or [eric.a.chamberlain@aphis.usda.gov](mailto:eric.a.chamberlain@aphis.usda.gov).

### CT VEGETABLE AND SMALL FRUIT GROWERS' CONFERENCE JAN 19

The University of Connecticut, USDA, and the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station (CAES) will host the *Connecticut Vegetable and Small Fruit Growers' Conference* from 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. at the Tolland County Extension Center, 24 Hyde Avenue, Vernon, on Thursday, January 19, 2012. Approximately 3 hours of re-certification credits will be available (pending DEP approval), the last chance to obtain credits for 2011.

\$30 registration includes lunch/coffee/donuts and can be done at the door starting at 8:00 a.m.

Educational talks start at 9:00 a.m. Topics include Growing Your Market: Making the Most of High and Low Tech Media, Managing Bird Problems in Fruit and Vegetables, Beneficial Insect Habitat Development, Upgrading High Tunnels and Greenhouses to Increase Production, Growing Tomatoes at the Holmberg Orchards, CAES's New Crops Program, and Spotted Winged Drosophila - New Fruit Crop Pest.

This conference usually attracts 150-175 people. For details contact Jude Boucher, 860-875-3331 or [jude.boucher@uconn.edu](mailto:jude.boucher@uconn.edu).

### PART-TIME PROJECT CONSULTING POSITION BUYCTGROWN PROJECT SPECIALIST

The UConn Cooperative Extension System is embarking on an effort to enhance the utility of [www.buyCTgrown.com](http://www.buyCTgrown.com) with grant funding from USDA Federal-State Marketing Improvement Program.

The BuyCTGrown project specialist will conduct a producer needs assessment, oversee website improvements, coordinate the launch of an online consumer pledge campaign, train producers and stakeholders on effective use of this marketing tool, and steer the implementation of a pilot wholesale service between producers and chefs. The ideal candidate will have connections to the agriculture community, strong business/marketing instincts, experience making presentations, and excitement for how buyCTgrown.com can help agriculture enterprises.

The part-time consulting position calls for 1,200 hours over 20 months and will be compensated at approximately \$25/hr. This position will be based out of the Tolland County Extension Office. Send resume, cover letter and three references by December 16, 2011, to [jiff.martin@uconn.edu](mailto:jiff.martin@uconn.edu).

**News and events from local agricultural organizations are published on a first-come, first-served basis as space allows. Submit concise summaries (150 words maximum) to [linda.plotrowicz@ct.gov](mailto:linda.plotrowicz@ct.gov) for consideration. There is no guarantee that submissions will be published.**

### STATE REPS HONORED BY CT FARM BUREAU

Four state representatives were honored by the Connecticut Farm Bureau Association during CFBA's annual meeting at Maneeley's Banquet & Catering in South Windsor on November 18, 2011.

Democrats Mae Flexer (Killingly, Plainfield and Sterling) and Tom Reynolds (Ledyard, Preston and Montville) and Republicans Penny Bacchiochi (Somers, Stafford and Union) and Clark Chapin (New Milford) were given recognition for their ongoing efforts in the state legislature to help support local farming and agriculture.

"These four individuals have been strong voices for agriculture and were nominated by their local county farm bureaus," said Henry Talmage, CFBA's executive director. "Each has proven to be a farmer's constant advocate in Hartford. This award is just a small way that all of the members of the Connecticut Farm Bureau can say 'thank you' to them for their work."

### CHANGES TO CT AG REPORT SUBSCRIPTIONS

The Connecticut Weekly Agricultural Report is moving to a two-year subscription cycle, effective January 1, 2012. Print subscriptions will run through December 31, 2013. The rate for this two-year cycle will be \$40, an extension of the existing annual rate over two years instead of one.

The report is also available for FREE by email in PDF format. Email subscribers do not need to renew and remain on the distribution list as long as the email address is valid.

Please contact [Ronald.Olsen@ct.gov](mailto:Ronald.Olsen@ct.gov) with any questions.

### USDA ANNOUNCES RANKING DATES FOR CONSERVATION INITIATIVES

Connecticut State Conservationist for the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Jay Mar recently announced the ranking dates for the On-Farm Energy, Organic, and Seasonal High Tunnel Conservation Initiatives. All offer technical and financial assistance through the agency's Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP).

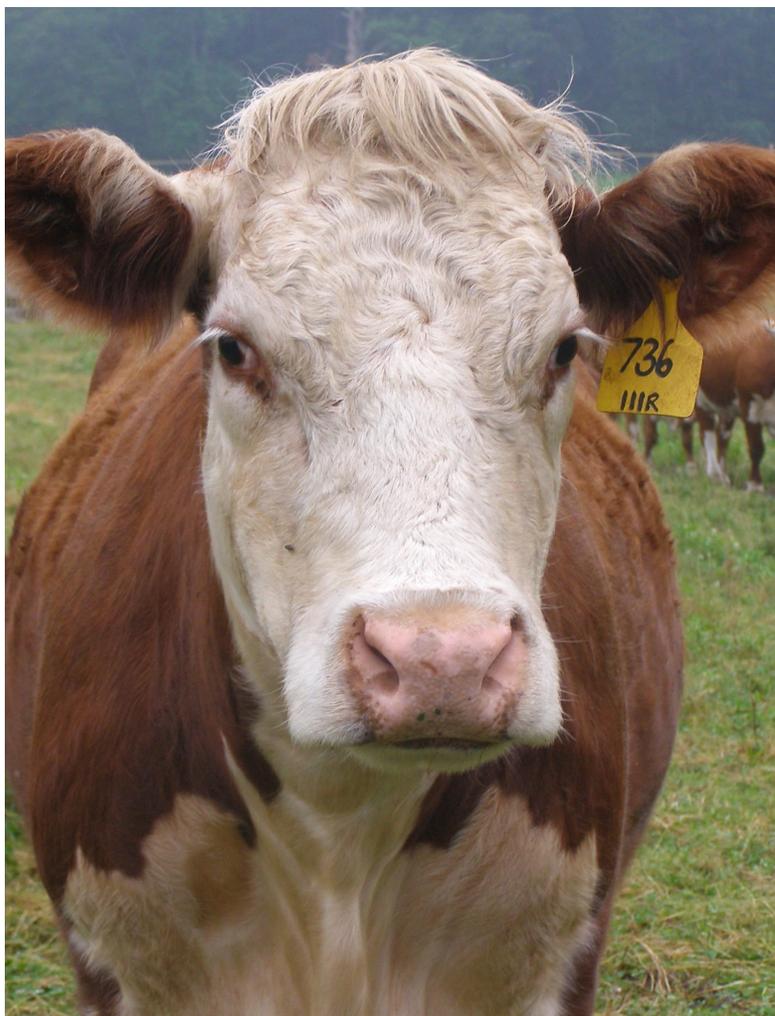
"Moving to multiple ranking dates will make it easier for producers to apply and begin implementing the practices they need to benefit natural resources," Mar said.

NRCS accepts applications for financial assistance on a continuous basis; however, there will be three ranking periods for the Organic, On-Farm Energy, and Seasonal High Tunnel Initiatives, all ending on February 3, March 30, and June 1, 2012. At the end of a period, NRCS ranks all submitted proposals for funding consideration. NRCS will notify applicants of the results and begin developing contracts with those selected.

For more information, visit go to [www.ct.nrcs.usda.gov/programs](http://www.ct.nrcs.usda.gov/programs), or contact your nearest USDA Field Office.

### 2012 HARVEST NEW ENGLAND CONFERENCE DATES

The 2013 Harvest New England Agricultural Marketing Conference and Trade Show will be held February 26-28, 2013, at the Sturbridge Host Hotel, Sturbridge, MA. For more info, visit [www.harvestnewengland.org](http://www.harvestnewengland.org) after January 1, 2012.



**Advertising Rates:** Fifteen words or less \$3.75 per insertion. For ads of more than 15 words, 25 cents per word per insertion. Initial letters, hyphenated words, phone numbers, and addresses, etc., are counted separately. Print or type copy. Publication on a specific date cannot be guaranteed. Advertisements will be published on a first-come, first-served basis. Ads must be received by noon the Friday before a publication date to be considered for insertion. Only ads of an agricultural nature with a Connecticut phone number will be accepted. Remittance with copy required. Make check or money order payable to the Connecticut Department of Agriculture.

#### CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Commissioner	Steven K. Reviczky 860-713-2500
Marketing & Technology	Robert Pellegrino 860-713-2503
Regional Market	Robert Pellegrino 860-566-3699
State Veterinarian	Dr. Mary J. Lis 860-713-2505
Regulation & Inspection	Dr. Bruce Sherman 860-713-2504
Farmland Preservation	Joseph Dippel 860-713-2511
Aquaculture	David Carey 203-874-2855
FAX NUMBERS	860-713-2516 860-713-2514

Email: [Linda.Piotrowicz@ct.gov](mailto:Linda.Piotrowicz@ct.gov)  
Internet: [www.CT.gov/doag](http://www.CT.gov/doag)

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